STATIN [redacted]
Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-001
CPYRGHT

WASHINGTON STAR

JUN 17 1966

CIA Won't Disclose Methods, Raborn Replies to Fulbright

By the Associated Press

The director of the Central Intelligence Agency is not ducking a Senate battle over supervision of his agency.

William F. Raborn has informed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee he is willing to give it "substantive intelligence information" — but will not disclose "sources and methods."

And that, he said in a letter yesterday to Chairman J. W. Fulbright, D-Ark., was the only kind of question the committee asked that he refused to answer at a February briefing that helped trigger the clash over who supervises intelligence activities.

The exchange of letters between Raborn and Fulbright was interpreted as probably killing the last chance for a compromise that would avert a floor fight on the touchy issue.

Raborn Diplomatic

Retired Adm. Raborn put it diplomatically: "I have previously stated, once before your committee, that Senate supervision of the agency (CIA) seems to be one which the Senate itself would want to resolve."

In attempting to keep the Senate from resolving it with a potentially embarrassing floor fight, Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana has tried to work out a number of compromises.

Fulbright's group has argued that because of its jurisdiction over foreign relations it should have some role in overseeing activities of the intelligence agency.

He and some committee members were disturbed when Raborn acknowledged in the February briefing that he did not feel he could give them as detailed information as he gives the Senate's CIA watchdog subcommittee.

Enlargement Opposed

That committee, headed by Chairman Richard B. Russell, D-Ga., of the Armed Services Committee, opposes a resolution approved by Fulbright's group to add three of its members to Russell's seven-man panel.

In what apparently was a last-chance compromise move, Fulbright wrote Raborn Monday and said "it has been suggested" that he find out whether the CIA would give its recognition to a CIA subcommittee set up by the Foreign Relations Committee.

In the response two days later Raborn said of the February meeting:

"The questions to which I stated I was unable to respond were questions directed to the activities of the agency as to 'sources and methods,' rather than to substantive intelligence information."

Cites Precedent

Raborn said in declining to answer these questions he was following past practice.

"The subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee, according to my understanding, is responsible for Senate oversight of CIA and was thus the Senate body to be so informed," he added.

Raborn suggested that if this practice was to be changed the Senate would have to change it.

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-00149R000200900010-3